

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-  
 WASHINGTON  
 DAILY NEWS

SEP 17 1965

'Spoke for Himself Alone'

## McN Denounces Fulbright

The controversy over Sen. J. William Fulbright's denunciation of U.S. action in the Dominican Republic escalated yesterday with a blunt retort from Defense Secretary Robert McNamara.

He told a news conference it was clear the Arkansas Democrat "spoke for himself alone," and not for the membership of his Foreign Relations Committee.

Sen. Fulbright, in a 10,000-word blast Wednesday, claimed the U.S. intervened not to save American lives, but "to prevent the victory of a revolutionary movement which was judged to be communist-dominated."

### NO QUESTION

Mr. McNamara, however, told reporters:

"There was no question in my mind then and there is none now about the danger to American lives that existed at that time, and that was the immediate cause for the introduction of U.S. troops.

"I don't think there is any doubt in the minds of many foreign governments as to the

danger to the lives of their nationals because many of them asked for protection."

Sen. Fulbright's charge also drew criticism from Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D., Conn.), a close friend of President Johnson, and Rep. Gerald R. Ford (Mich.), House Republican Leader. But Sen. Wayne Morse, (D., Ore.), chairman of a Senate sub-committee on Latin America, supported Sen. Fulbright "100 per cent."

### CITES REQUEST

Mr. McNamara said France in particular "asked that the boundaries of the International Zone be modified to include its embassy because of the danger to the personnel of it embassy."

He also criticized Sen. Fulbright's reference to W. Tapley Bennett, U.S. Ambassador to Santo Domingo. Sen. Fulbright charged Mr. Johnson intervened in the Dominican Republic on the basis of bad advice.

"I think in many respects his (Sen. Fulbright's) statement ... was a unfair attack on a very able and a very dedicated Foreign Service officer," said Mr. McNamara.

Sen. Dodd's speech, said Sen. Fulbright's attitude was "shared by a number of people (who) are so bemused by the communist pretention to social revolution that they permit their tolerance to communism to

blind them to the very real danger it poses to the survival of freedom."

Sen. Morse said would-be dictators, claiming that "communists are about to get us," are using U.S. military force to stay in power.

### DODD'S STAND

Another episode like the Dominican intervention, he said, "and the people of Latin America will know once and for all that the real Alliance for Progress died with John Kennedy."

Rep. Ford backed the intervention, but said the action was tardy and could have been better planned. "When the situation became acute, the President had no choice," he said. (UPD.)